GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:494
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2003
POWER SUPPLY POSITION IN SUMMER
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the ensuing summer is going to be very difficult for people due to shortage of power;

(b) if so, the estimated peak load status for the summer and the estimated supply; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Union Government to bridge the gap?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 494 TO BE ANSWERED IN TH LOK SABHA ON 24.03.2003 REGARDING POWER SUPPLY POSITION IN SUMMER.

(a) : There is an overall shortage of power availability in the country except some States. The gap between demand and supply varies from State to State and region to region.

(b) : The All India energy shortage during the ensuing summer is anticipated to vary from 2.9% to 8.8%, compared to 8% to 10.7% during the April − July, 2002. The All India peaking load shortage is expected to vary from 10.5% to 14.7% during April- July, 2003 as compared to 14.5% to 16.2% during the corresponding period of 2002.

(c) : Electricity is a concurrent subject. Supply and distribution of electricity in a State is the responsibility of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned.The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by way of capacity addition through the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs)Presently, about 30% of the total power generated in the country comes from the Central generating stations.

The following steps are being taken to improve the generation and availability of power in the country:

(i) A capacity addition of 41,110 MW has been targeted for 10th Five Year Plan.

(ii) Early stabilization of newly commissioned units and overall increase in PLF of thermal units.

(iii) Strengthening/Augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution systems. Funds are being provided for undertaking schemes for transmission and distribution systems to States under the accelerated power development & Reforms Programme (APDRP).

(iv) Demand side management and Promoting energy efficiency and energy conservation measures.

(v) Disbursement of loans with interest subsidy by the Power Finance Corporation forrenovation and modernization of old and inefficient generating units.

(vi) Enhancement of inter-state and inter-regional power transfer by strengthening of inter-regional transmission links and finally formation of National Grid.

(vii) Exploitation of hydro potential at a faster pace.

(viii) A major cause for power projects not materializing has been the poor paying capacity of the State Utilities which are the ultimate purchasers of power from the private sector projects and CPSUs.A number of steps have been initiated to reform and restructure the State Power Utilities.27 States have already signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for undertaking reforms and restructuring in a time bound manner. Further, to bring about reforms in distribution, Ministry of Power has launched the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme as a major step towards reduction of aggregate transmission and commercial losses and attaining commercial viability of the power sector. 27 State Electricity Boards/Utilities have signed Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)

with Ministry of Power which is a pre-requisite for release of APDRP funds.The commitments of the State Government in these MoUs/MoAs include setting up ofthe State Electricity Regulatory Commission, 100% metering of 11 KV feeders,effective energy audit, identification and elimination of power theft and thereby attainment of commercial viability in distribution.